of medical education in the country is now ready;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof and whether any time limit has been fixed for submission of the said policy?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) The process of formulating a National Education Policy in Health Sciences has been initiated which is inter-alia intended to cover various aspects of health manpower development suggest mechanisms for improving the quality of medical education and other connected matters.

It will be Government's endeavour to complete the exercise as early as possible.

Herbs for Treatment of Aids

1142. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recent discoveries have identified certain plants having the potential for treatment of AIDs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that research work is going on in respect of these plants and if so, the progress of the research work made in this field so far; and

(d) whether the research work in this matter is being carried on in co-operation with some other countries, if so, what are their names?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) Yes, Anti-AIDs Properties have been reported in a large number of plants belonging to the family of Cucurbitaceae. Some of them are commonly used vegetables such as Memordica Charantia (Karela); Luffa acotanquala and Luffa cylindrica (Tori) and also Andrographis panculate (Kalmegh).

(c) Yes. Some Indian laboratories are investigating Indian medicinal plants for anti-AIDs activity.

(d) No Sir.

Recognition of Kasturba Medical College in Mangalore, Karnataka

1143. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kasturba Medical College in Mangalore, Karnataka has been duly recognised by the Medical Council of India;

(b) if so, when was it recognised; and

(c) whether the college fulfils the prescribed norms of the Medical Council of India?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) The Medical Council of India (MCI) have informed that this college was recognised in 1957 and the college fulfils the norms of the Council.

Institution for Popularisation and Expansion of Electropathy

1144. SHRI JAGANNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on 14th June, 1991, the then Health and Family Welfare Minister had ordered to authorise an institution for popularisation and expansion of electropathy and also to undertake research work on electropathy, if so, what are the details of the said order;

(b) whether it is a fact that Allahabad High Court had issued stay orders against for aforesaid orders; and

(c) if so, whether the said institution is going on with its work for the purpose inspite of High Court's stay orders?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The former Dy. Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Sri Dasai Chowdhry after visiting an institute in Janakpuri, New Delhi had desired that the institute may be given recognition for development and research of Electropathy. This order was however passed without obtaining technical and administrative advice of the concerned experts in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

(b) The Allahabad High Court had directed the Union Health Secretary to decide the issue of according recognition of the Electropathy/